



NUUANU/ PUNCHBOWL NEIGHBORHOOD BOARD NO. 12

c/o NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION • 530 SOUTH KING STREET ROOM 400 • HONOLULU, HAWAII, 96813
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DRAFT MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING

TUESDAY, MAY 16, 2006

BOOTH DISTRICT PARK

CALL TO ORDER: Chair Canopin called the meeting to order at 7:19 p.m. with six (6) members present, which did not constitute a quorum. He distributed packets to each Board member containing reports of the emergency service agencies and public representatives, and other assorted items necessary to complete the evening's agenda.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mason Aiona, Dean Asahina (arrived at 7:41 p.m.), Al Canopin, Jr., Richard Carreira (arrived at 7:23 p.m.), Heather Mullins Crislip (appointed at this meeting), Audrey Hidano, Leimamo Kapea (appointed at this meeting), Paula Kurashige, Remy Luria (arrived at 7:23 p.m.), Philip Nerney, Wendy Young Ogawa (arrived at 7:22 p.m.), Patt Spencer, Sylvia Young (arrived at 7:22 p.m.).

MEMBERS ABSENT: Jim Bannan.

GUESTS: Capt. W. Soo (Honolulu Fire Department); Lt. C. Loui, Officer M. Tamashiro (Honolulu Police Department – District 1); Sgt. G. Costa, Officer C. Simmons (Honolulu Police Department – District 5); Blayne Higa (Representative Luke's Office staff); Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland; Leimamo Kapea (Papakolea – Kokua Mai Kalani); Heather Mullins Crislip, Chris O., Lauren O.; Rachel M. Glanstein (Neighborhood Commission Office staff).

VACANCIES: Although there were persons interested in filling the vacancies in Subdistrict 1 and 2, there was no quorum to take action. For the same reason, the additional seat in Subdistrict 1 could not be declared vacant. There was no person interested in filling the vacancy in Subdistrict 3.

The agenda was taken out of order to hear the emergency service agency reports.

FIRE AND POLICE:

HONOLULU FIRE DEPARTMENT (HFD) – Capt. W. Soo provided the following information:

- 1) April statistics – 5 structure and 3 vehicle fires; 40 medical, 1 search/rescue and 7 miscellaneous emergencies.
- 2) Fire Safety Tip – Prepare a fire escape plan. Map out escape routes with at least two ways out of each room. Designate a location outside of the house where everyone can meet. Know where the closest phone is located to call 911.



Sylvia Young and Wendy Young Ogawa arrived at 7:22 p.m., making eight (8) members present, which constituted a quorum.

HONOLULU POLICE DEPARTMENT (HPD) –

District 1, Honolulu: Officer M. Tamashiro relayed the following April/March statistics – 1/0 robberies, 6/3 burglaries, 7/3 unauthorized entries into a motor vehicle (UEMVs), 2/3 auto thefts, 0/0 aggravated assaults, 2/0 simple assaults, 22/34 motor vehicle collisions (MVCs), 0/0 driving under the influence (DUIs), 0/0 sex assaults, 2/1 family offenses, 1/1 drug offenses, 0/1 graffiti offenses.

Richard Carreira and Remy Luria arrived during the above report at 7:23 p.m., making 10 members present.

Questions, comments and concerns followed:

- 1) Young noted the presence of a television crew outside reporting on the theft of some of Booth District Park's copper rain gutters.
- 2) Leimamo Kapea thanked HPD for their good work at Papakolea.
- 3) Young related her experience of calling 911 to report a possibly suspicious people selling bread door-to-door mid-morning on a weekday. HPD checked them out and found them to be legitimately fundraising for the River of Life. She characterized the dispatcher as being rude. Officer Tamashiro thanked her for calling it in, just in case, and disclosed that the HPD dispatchers belong to a different union than the officers.

District 5, Kalihi: Sgt. G. Costa conveyed the following April/March statistics – 1/0 sex offenses, 1/0 robberies, 4/3 burglaries, 3/7 thefts, 8/10 UEMVs, 0/1 motor vehicle thefts, 2/4 assaults, 2/4 property damages, 1/0 drugs/narcotics, 1/1 family offenses, 2/4 DUIs, 29/16 MVCs, and 10/10 arguments.

Questions, comments and concerns followed:

- 1) Aiona inquired if HPD has caught the person who robbed Hawaii National Bank. Sgt. Costa replied that the robber has not been captured yet; he added that the robber in question has robbed more than just that one bank. Sgt. Costa reported that there has been an increase in bank robberies.
- 2) Kurashige confirmed that people should immediately report stolen wallets and passports to HPD. Sgt. Costa stressed the importance of reporting the crime, stating that if HPD isn't made aware of a crime, then officers can't take action on the issue.

The order of agenda was resumed.

VACANCIES:

SUBDISTRICT 1 (ONE SEAT) – Leimamo Kapea introduced herself; she's involved in her community association at Papakolea, has taught in the State Department of Education's (DOE) Hawaiian studies program. Kapea emphasized her commitment and community involvement.

Unanimous consent (10-0-0) was used to APPOINT Leimamo Kapea to fill the vacancy in Subdistrict 1.
There were then 11 members present.

OPTION TO DECLARE AN ADDITIONAL SEAT VACANT IN SUBDISTRICT 1 (RICHARD CARREIRA'S SEAT) –
Chair Canopin noted Carreira's numerous absences, but confirmed Carreira's desire to remain on the Board.

SUBDISTRICT 2 (ONE SEAT) – Heather Mullins Crislip introduced herself; she previously served on the Manoa Neighborhood Board No. 7, and wants to feel more connected to her community here. Crislip works for the Chancellor of the University of Hawaii (UH) at Manoa.

Unanimous consent (11-0-0) was used to APPOINT Heather Mullins Crislip to fill the vacancy in Subdistrict 2. There were then 12 members present.

SUBDISTRICT 3 (ONE SEAT) – There were no interested persons to fill the vacancy.

BIRTHDAY RECOGNITION/CELEBRATION FOR AUDREY HIDANO AND NEIGHBORHOOD ASSISTANT (NA)

RACHEL GLANSTEIN: A recess was taken from 7:35 p.m. to 8 p.m. to celebrate the May birthdays of Hidano and NA Glanstein with cake and ice cream, and to allow NA Glanstein to administer the Oaths of Office to the new Board members (Kapea and Crislip). NA Glanstein was also presented with a lei, since she will be leaving the Neighborhood Commission Office (NCO).

Dean Asahina arrived during the above recess at 7:41 p.m., making 13 members present.

NEIGHBORHOOD SECURITY WATCH:

PAUOA –

Dumping at Pauoa Elementary School – Aiona described the illegal dumping at the school. A chain link fence has been installed around the dumpster area and it will be locked to deter dumping.

Booth Park Recreational Center – Stolen Copper Rain Gutters – Aiona recounted the theft of the copper rain gutters and explained that the metal is worth money. The gutters are also both expensive and difficult to replace. He advised everyone to keep an eye out for anything suspicious.

NUUANU – Kurashige stated that Sgt. Costa answered her questions earlier in the meeting.

APPROVAL OF THE APRIL 18, 2006 MINUTES: The minutes were **APPROVED** by unanimous consent with the following correction –

- * Page 4 – Representative Corinne Ching – Discussion – item no. 4 – strike out the first sentence and insert this sentence: "Luria feels that the officials may have been alienated."

TREASURER'S REPORTS: Secretary/Treasurer Spencer reported the following amounts for April – The Operating Account expenses were \$103.88, leaving a balance of \$887.19. The Publicity and Refreshments Accounts had no expenses, leaving balances of \$1,298.00 and \$46.14, respectively.

MESSAGE TO THE COMMUNITY FROM ELECTED OFFICIALS: Chair Canopin didn't receive any reports.

REPRESENTATIVE SYLVIA LUKE – Blayne Higa distributed handouts and highlighted the following:

- 1) Some of the resolutions passed this season are: (a) House Resolution 124 (HR 124) – requesting the State Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) to prohibit all commercial vendors at the Nuuanu Pali lookout; (b) House Concurrent Resolution 164 (HCR 164) – requesting DLNR to consult with Hawaiian civic organizations before selecting any commercial vendors at the Nuuanu Pali lookout; (c) Senate Concurrent Resolution 98 (SCR 98) – urging the City to proceed with caution in reviewing developments on steep hillsides with potential rockfall hazards; (d) HR 222 – requesting the State Board of Land and Natural Resources (BLNR) and the counties to conduct a study of all streams and drainage channels in the state; and (e) HR 223 – requesting the Chairperson of BLNR and the Adjutant General to conduct a study of all public and privately owned dams in the state.
- 2) The Papakolea Community Development Corporation received a Grant-In-Aid (GIA) of \$250,000 for operating funds for the Papakolea Community Park and full service center.

Questions, comments and concerns followed:

- 1) Nerney complimented Rep. Luke's office on their work on the review of development on steep hillsides. He mentioned that he emailed Rep. Luke requesting information on bills passed this session with respect to condominium and community associations. Higa replied that they're looking into it and he will forward any information gathered.
- 2) Hidano referenced Senate Bill 2190, relating to unemployment tax, and asked that Higa relay to Rep. Luke that the bill is bad for business.
- 3) Kapea expressed her appreciation to Rep. Luke's office for the GIA for Papakolea.

- 4) Kurashige thanked Rep. Luke's office for sending the information about the upcoming road closures in Nuuanu, due to Board of Water Supply (BWS) repairs.

SENATOR SUZANNE CHUN OAKLAND – Sen. Chun Oakland circulated information packets on legislation done this session.

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 164 AND SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 98 SD-1: Chair Canopin noted that Higa covered these resolutions in his report.

INVENTORY/STATUS OF COMMUNITY ISSUES: Luria pointed out that he previously asked that the requested audit of the City's abandoned and derelict vehicles program be placed on the inventory. Chair Canopin pointed out that City Council Resolution 06-003 requesting the City Auditor to audit the City's abandoned and derelict vehicles program was included in the Board members' packets. Chair Canopin added that the Auditor decides whether or not to pursue it, although he is considering the audit for the next fiscal year. Luria declared that if the issue is not resolved, then he wants it on the inventory.

Luria moved, and Carreira seconded, to send a copy of the previous letter sent to City Council (requesting an audit of the City's abandoned and derelict vehicles program) to the City Auditor with a cover letter asking for a completion date for the audit of September 1, 2006.

Discussion ensued:

- 1) Luria asserted that if the Board can't get the Auditor to move on the audit, then the efforts were for nothing. Hidano responded that she's unsure if the Board has jurisdiction to tell the City Auditor what to do.
- 2) Young expressed her opinion that it's not the Board's place to send a letter – that it's up to the Council to get the Auditor to follow through on the audit; the Auditor is still working an audit of the NCO. Young suggested that the Board urge Council to follow up.
- 3) Chair Canopin feels that it's pointless to pursue the issue, since it's now completely up to the Auditor.
- 4) Luria remarked that the Board should follow up, and send a letter castigating the Council for not following through. He stated that it would take one person six hours to do this audit, which is different from the audit of the NCO. Luria continued to comment on how long these contractors take to remove abandoned vehicles, and yet the City keeps paying them.
- 5) Kapea noted that the Auditor has already given a response, and ventured that everyone needs to realize that the Auditor's office has a great deal of work but are aware of the problem.

- 6) Carreira stated that, as a new Board member, Kapea doesn't have the knowledge and experience with this issue. He supports sending a letter.
- 7) Chair Canopin emphasized that the Board has done their job by taking it to Council and having Council adopt a resolution.
- 8) Luria stressed that now the Board has to ask the Auditors to do their jobs, and sending a letter requesting this is merely a clerical task.
- 9) Nerney offered that a function that the Board can provide is to annoy, bother and harass government agencies to get tasks accomplished. He stated that the current process has not yielded action and he doesn't see any harm in sending a letter.
- 10) Young agreed with Nerney, but would rather have the Board work with Council and the Auditors instead of antagonizing them. She would like an idea of when the audit will begin, though. Chair Canopin answered that the Council will receive a timeframe from the Auditor in June. Young then concluded that it's appropriate for the Board to wait.
- 11) Ogawa asked Luria what the Board would do if the deadline of September 1, 2006 was passed. Luria replied that the Auditors will typically respond saying they can't make the deadline.

The motion to send a copy of the previous letter sent to City Council (requesting an audit of the City's abandoned and derelict vehicles program) to the City Auditor with a cover letter asking for a completion date for the audit of September 1, 2006 was NOT ADOPTED 7-5-1, since it didn't receive the required eight (8) votes to adopt (Aye: Aiona, Asahina, Carreira, Hidano, Kurashige, Luria, Nerney; No: Canopin, Kapea, Ogawa, Spencer, Young; Abstain: Crislip).

Chair Canopin stated that he will follow up on the issue and place it on the inventory.

Luria moved, and Carreira seconded, that the Board send a letter to the State Attorney General requesting him to determine why contracts for the City to dispose of abandoned or derelict vehicles appear to take months instead of days to be fulfilled without anyone at the City seeming to be in control of it (and include the previous letter sent to Council on this issue).

Discussion followed:

- 1) Aiona related his experience with the derelict/abandoned vehicles that were at Booth District Park. He noted that the division can't give a specific time for towing, since it takes seven (7) to 10 days to get the paperwork, and then they have to process it. Aiona received good results at the park because he consistently called at least once per week. He emphasized that it takes time to remove a vehicle.

- 2) Luria mentioned that the contract with the City states that once the vendor is notified of a vehicle to remove, they have 72 to 96 hours to remove it. He accused the City of not auditing the program because they're aware of the problems.
- 3) Spencer commented that the State Attorney General probably has more important State matters to deal with, not small City problems.
- 4) Young recounted her experience with abandoned vehicles – that there are two different options to deal with the vehicles: (a) HPD; and (b) the City's Abandoned Vehicles Division (AVD). If the vehicle is in a place hazardous to traffic, then HPD will cite and tow within a set time period (could be 48 hours). If the vehicle is on the street but not blocking traffic, then AVD will cite the vehicle, and her street was taken care of in a timely manner. She noted that it's the persistence of the community and individuals to keep calling in abandoned and derelict vehicles. Young urged that, instead of bringing this sort of problem to the Board, everyone should make an effort.
- 5) Kapea contributed that abandoned cars were removed from Papakolea because of the complaint volume.
- 6) Chair Canopin conveyed his understanding of Luria's frustration and added that he personally does not want to draft the letter referred to in the motion. Luria responded that he will certainly draft it.

The motion that the Board send a letter to the State Attorney General requesting him to determine why contracts for the City to dispose of abandoned or derelict vehicles appear to take months instead of days to be fulfilled without anyone at the City seeming to be in control of it (and include the previous letter sent to Council on this issue) was NOT ADOPTED 4-9-0, since it didn't receive the required eight (8) votes to adopt (Aye: Asahina, Carreira, Luria, Nerney; No: Aiona, Canopin, Crislip, Hidano, Kapea, Kurashige, Ogawa, Spencer, Young).

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 8:52 p.m.

Submitted by:

Rachel M. Glanstein, Neighborhood Assistant

Reviewed by:

Chair Al Canopin, Jr. and Secretary Patt Spencer